

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

December 30, 2020

Good evening. This is First Selectman Jason Bowsza reaching out to all residents of the Town of East Windsor. A copy of this message, and more information about COVID-19, can be found on the Town's website.

We have had twenty-five new cases of COVID-19 confirmed in East Windsor since last Wednesday. The Town continues to partner with Priority Urgent Care to offer live virus testing and antibody testing every Wednesday from 10am to 3pm at the Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street, East Windsor. This is open to anyone, and all insurances are accepted. Depending on individual insurance plans, patients may be responsible for either a copay or deductible. People without insurance will be tested at no charge. Flu shots are also provided from 10am to 12pm at the drive through clinic. Most insurance plans cover the cost of a flu shot, but those without insurance can get a flu shot for a \$20 fee. Anyone interested is strongly encouraged to schedule appointments ahead of time by calling 860-454-0678.

Last week, the Board of Selectmen voted to renew a tax deferment program for taxes that would normally have been due on January 1st. Instead, those payments can be deferred by ninety days, now due on April 1. The deferment applies to anyone who pays their taxes through non-escrowed means. It is our hope that this will provide some flexibility and relief as people in the community continue to recover from the economic effects of the pandemic.

As difficult as 2020 has been, I wanted to look back at some accomplishments over the last year.

Despite the pandemic, this year the Town strengthened our communications efforts and transparency by issuing these weekly phone calls, by publishing the Five Village Voice (sent to every home in town quarterly), and by including every public document under discussion at selectmen's meetings on the Town website.

We used the presidential election to engage voters in our community in record levels to include them in the decision-making process by including four ballot questions, each of which passed overwhelmingly.

We were forced to establish new and innovative ways of delivering municipal services in the midst of the pandemic, including providing access to community COVID testing, engaging with our elderly population in new ways, and establishing different methods to celebrate milestones like graduation ceremonies.

And we managed to invest in key infrastructure improvements that will benefit the quality of life in the community for years to come, all while leaving Town finances in a very healthy position for the future.

This year has been challenging for everyone, but I hope we can also take time to look at some of the really positive things that have happened this year.

I wish a very happy and healthy New Year,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman